

Weed Beach Building Committee  
Special Meeting Minutes  
July 23, 2008 – 7:30pm  
Room 119 – Town Hall

**Present:** P. Hovell, D. Parnon, J. Howe, M. Wright, D. Bayne

**Absent:** M. Hawley, J. Enters, C. Darby

**Guests:** Parks & Rec. Commission Members: J. Branigan, B. Marchesi  
J. Ryan (Owners Rep.), D. Halstead (Stearns & Wheeler), N. Hauck (Architect)

The meeting was taped by Channel 79.

Hovell convened the meeting at 7:35 with an introduction of the guests present. He discussed the status of the CM selection process: six interviews were conducted on July 18. Two companies were sent an RFP requesting a sealed bid outlining their fee structure by Tues. July 29.

The bids will be reviewed on Tuesday. A recommendation will be made to the committee at the July 30 meeting. Companies not chosen will be called and thanked for their presentation.

Budget Update: Hovell shared with the committee the need to reduce the budget to the \$3.6m which was approved. Ryan distributed and reviewed a list of possible items that could be deducted from the budget. A list of additional deductions including bigger ticket items was also distributed. These items require discussion and approval by the Parks and Rec. Commission if they change the original charge given to the WBBC. The list includes: omitting the sailing building renovation, omitting one gazebo and simplifying bath house roof line to name a few.

Bayne asked if we needed to make decisions about what to delete tonight. Hovell replied that we will give a list of alternates (the major deductions we have identified) to the contractor and request a price with and without the alternates. Some discussion followed with respect to the list of deductions (warming hut deck, boardwalk along the beach, sailing building). Consensus of the meeting was to omit the sailing building renovations with a resulting 5-0 vote to bring this to Parks & Rec. for their approval.

Design/Drawings: Halstead reviewed the project design with respect to the amenities: pavers, pavilion, bike rack, benches, light fixtures, picnic tables, plantings etc. Hauck reviewed the infrastructure and aesthetic details of the bathhouse building.

Playground: Darien Technology & Community Fund made a generous gift of swings to the project.

Gift Committee: Hovell, Howe and Parnon to meet to further the development of this process and policy. S. Graham has resigned from this sub committee for personal reasons. WBBC is not soliciting donors but we need a process in place to receive donations.

Concession Stand: Rob Williamson, owner of Uncle's Deli and currently runs the beach concession, Uncle's By the Sea, will continue operating the concession at Weed Beach. Several ideas have been discussed with Rob for alternative ways to providing a concession service.

Sign Committee: M. Hawley and Alec Wiggin have inventoried the signage and are researching sign design. Wiggin spoke with Parnon about the sign company used for downtown signage in an effort to create some continuity among Darien Town signs.

Wright suggested the WBBC web site should be updated.

**Next Meeting – Special Meeting on Wednesday July 30, Room 119, 7:30pm.**

Meeting adjourned at 9:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Parnon, Secretary

7.23.08